Mont. 17-51-11
John and Annie Harper House (Site)
Poolesville vicinity, Jerusalem community
Private

Poss. mid 19th century

This log house contained one room down and one up, was warmed by a large fireplace, and may have been built as a slave house. Later it became the home of a lack landowning family.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

ACCESSIBLE — ENTERTAINMENT — RELIGIOUS — SCIENTIFIC — SOVERMENT — SCIENTIFIC — SOVERMENT — SCIENTIFIC — NO — MILITARY — SOURCESS — SEING CONSIDERED — YES UNRESTRICTED — INDUSTRIAL — TRANSPOR — NO — MILITARY — XOTHER 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY — Forest NAME B.P. and P. Hawkins — Telephone #: 972-0503 STREET & NUMBER — VICINITY OF — Maryland 20720 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION — STATE , Zip code Maryland 20720 COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS.ETC Registry of Deeds — Folio #: 277 STREET & NUMBER — County Courthouse — STATE — Mid. 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE — None DATE — FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL						
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

_unaltered _Xaltered ∠ORIGINAL SITE

__GOOD __FAIR __RUINS _XUNEXPOSED __MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This log house stood on the north side of Jerusalem Church Road, on parcle CT33 P. 317, of today's county property map. The house has since been torn down, and nothing remains but some rubble. According to Joe Harper who was raised in the Jonesville community nearby and to Howard Lyles, the community informant from Jerusalem, this log house had one room down and one up. It resembled the house of Charles Frank Dorsey, which remains standing, except that this house was heated by a fireplace instead of a wood stove. This is the only log house in the community that had a fireplace instead of a stove, suggesting that the house may be older than the others. Certainly older than the date of purchase of the property by John Harper, 1909.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	X.COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X.ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	XSOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	XOTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
	Poss. mid 19th	entury or	Black	14'STURY
SPECIFIC DAT		1890'S BUILDER/ARCH		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to deed, 218/1, John Harper purchased this tract of 1 acre, 17 sp. perches from William Wallace Poole, Carrie W.O. Poole his wife, and Anna Dickerson Poole in 1909.

It was a part of the much larger tract of land known as "Poole's Right" and was probably a part of the Poole estate on the east side of Rt. 109.

Though the deed shows that Harper purchased this property in 1909, oral history indicates that his ownership was previous to that. According to Joe Harper, the oral informant, William Wallace Poole had told him that John Harper had purchased a considerable amount of property from him on the east and west sides of Jeuusalem Church Rd. with money that Harper had saved from splitting rails. The deed, however, was not recorded. This was in the late 1800's or early 1900's before Joe Harper's time. Harper could not pay the taxes since he was short on cash and had been splitting rails for Poole to continue his payments on the property. So Poole suggested to Harper that he sell off the property, which Harper did. This resulted in the purchase of property by Charles and Josephine McPherson in 1913, George and Oral Lyles in 1915 and Lizzie Nichols in 1913. The property was sold in the name of the Poole family, and it is not known who received the money from the land sales, whether Poole or John Harper kept this small tract of approximately 1 Harper. acre for himself.

Since there are no written records to substantiate this, the story of William Wallace Poole cannot be proved, and all informants involved in it have passed on. It is possible, however, especially since Poole himself told the story. Its importance, regardless of its accuracy, is that it indicates that Harper was living here before 1909, and that the house is probably older than the date of the deed. It also indicates the strong desire of John Harper, born in 1840 during slavery, and of other Black men and women like him, to buy land and establish a base of autonomy. A large obstacle, however, was not just to acquire the land, but to make sufficient money within the limited job opportunities that wider society allowed for Black people in order to protect and hold on to that land.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Land Records, County Courthouse, Rockville, Md.
- 2) Oral interviews, (not taped), with Joe Harper and Howard Lyles, September October 1978 by George McDaniel

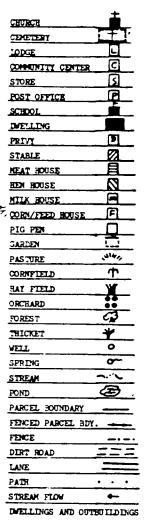
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA				
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY				
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION		 		
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIE	S OVERLAPPING	STATE OR CO	UNTY BOUNDA	RIES
STATE	COUNTY			
	COUNTY			
STATE	COUNTY			
11 FORM PREPARED BY				
NAME / TITLE				_
George W. McDaniel, Surveyor	Wesley			Assistant
ORGANIZATION Sugarloaf Regional Trails	Sept. 1978			
STREET & NUMBER			PHONE	
Box 87	926-4510			
CITY OR TOWN		STA	· -	
Dickerson	Maryland			

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle Box 87, Stronghold
Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Dickerson, Md. 20753
(301) 267-1438 (301) 926-4510



Jerusalem Road

هلمعک

200f+

MAP 4

JERUSALEM COMMUNITY,

c. 1900-1925

Jerusalem Church Rose

Steven Poolittie

Sugar loof Regional Travis

Oral Informants

Joshua Hamilton

Evelyn Harper
Joseph Harper

Howard Lyles

Dra Lyles Charles Moore

Margaret Moore

William Moore
Isabel Ovens

Fracus Thompson

faufa 28

1.	VILLIAM ROEDSON ESID.	3.22 AC.
2.	SARAH JOHNSON ESTD.	2.30 AC.
3.	MILTON HARPER ESTO.	1.00 AC.
4.	VILLIAM LYLES ESTO.	2.00 AC.
5.	SUSAN PROCTOR ESTD.	1.00 AC.
6.	FRANK DORSET ESTD.	2.90 AC.
7.	George dorset est.	4.75 AC.
82.	1st CLARKE BOME (log)	4.40 AC.
b.	2nd CLARKE BOME (frame)	
9.	JERUSALEN PARSOKAGE	1.50 AC.
10.	JERUSALEN CHURCE	0.50 AC.
11.	VILLIAN DORSET 557D.	2.00 AC.
12.	JAMES DORSET ESTD.	3.00 KC.
13a.	WILLIAM HOORE ESTO.	7.00 AC.
ъ.	HARTLEY MOORE ESTD.	
14.	DAVID COPPLAND ESTO.	2.00 AC.
15.	BOBERT VILLIAMS ESTD.	3.75 KC.
16.	VALLACE HAMILTON BETD.	2.50 KC.
17.	DENNIS HAMILTON BSTD.	9.66 AC.
18.	CHARLES MCPHEESON ESTD.	11.00 K.
19.	LIZZIE GRIDES ESTD.	4.00 AC.
20.	GEORGE LYLES RECO.	3.00 K.
21.	JOHN HARPER HSTD.	1.00 AC.
22.	JOHN HALLMAN HSTD.	10.00 AC.

DWELLINGS AND OUTSUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE 'HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY

